



The New Zealand Deerstalkers Assoc. Inc.

December Issue 2010:



“The Tines”
Rotorua Branch Newsletter December 2010



Rotorua N.Z.D.A. Branch Calendar

Ring coordinators for more information.
Phone numbers listed on inner back page.

Calendar of the Club's regular monthly events:

Committee Meeting	Last Monday of each month
Range Shoots*	3rd Sunday of each month
Socials	4th Wednesday of each month
Party Hunts**	4th Weekend of each month

** Regular Club Hunting & Trophy Shoots. For extra range shoots and 300 metre shoots please refer to Yearly Range Calendar.*

***Some Party Hunts may be on different dates, see programme.*

Our programme for this month:

Party Hunts	Party hunt – Boating/fishing social. Still to be confirmed. If interested, please contact a committee member.
Socials	None until next year.
Range Shoot	Range itinerary for 2010 in this issue: Contact Malcolm Perry.

Cover Photo: Brenda Perry photographed at the P.R.S.C. competitions where she top scored in every match she shot in and did not let any gold medals go across the Tasman. Brenda had a total haul of 5 golds, 1 silver and 1 bronze.

If you have a photograph that would be suitable for the cover please contact the Newsletter editor, Elvis Bowring on 350 3230 or ebowring@gmail.com.

Thanks to: Konica Minolta (1190 Pukaki Street, Rotorua) for printing our newsletter. The best address for quality and affordable copying and document solutions!

Advertising prices: If you would like to advertise in this publication, costs are as follows:

Full page \$150 (for 11 issues)

Half page \$75 (for 11 issues)

Single issue adverts can be arranged if required.

DISCLAIMER: As the contents of this magazine come from various sources, the opinions or ideas expressed are not necessarily endorsed by this committee or by National Executive, nor may they conform to branch or national policy. The official publication of the NZDA is the 'NZ Hunting and Wildlife'

Presidents Report

The sharp end of 2010 is approaching and Xmas only a week and a half away, it's labeled the silly season and every year we are reminded why. Economically & globally 2010 was not much better than 2009 with the economy in NZ struggling to make any headway. However firearm ownership bucks the trend and continues to increase and so has the overall NZDA membership; there is a steady increase in the interest of the outdoors. Albeit hunting for fresh organic meat for the table or just getting out to be away from the concrete madness that is town or city.

Our local Rotorua Branch has also seen a steady increase in membership this year; we have a strong stable committee and have been able to achieve many goals. The highlights have been the deer pen removal trip in the Whirinaki Forest Park and Skips & Mangakahika huts restored by our members. These initiatives have not only being rewarding but well supported and finding keen hard working volunteers has not been that hard.

The Xmas barbeque again this year was very well attended and the best part was seeing the next generation of shooters having a great time shooting targets. The day was a cracker and there was even ice cream on hand which went down a treat.

The Range continues to be popular and 140 Rotorua branch members have keys in use, the Range book has been filled in by most people which gives the branch a good indication of its usage. On behalf of the branch I would once again like to thank Malcolm Perry for his dedication to the range and organizing the shoots and being involved in some form or another....a real trooper. On behalf of the branch we would also like to congratulate Brenda Perry for an outstanding effort in the recent P.R.S.C shooting champs in Tokoroa, truly an outstanding achievement with 6 gold, silver & bronze medals.

On behalf of the branch I would also like to thank Murray Robson for once again heading the Hunts course. My thanks also go out to Cliff Graham and any unnamed people I have failed to mention for their help with the Hunts course. This course is provided by volunteers and takes a lot of preparation hard work and time to organize. It provides people from all walks of life the skills to survive in the bush, navigate shoot and prepare their game for the table safely and the right way.

I would also like to thank the committee again for being cohesive and making the meetings something to look forward to. I look forward to 2011 and any challenges it may bring, if you have been a branch member for awhile but have not attended a social I challenge you to do so in 2011. I guarantee you will not be disappointed and we all have more in common than not, so striking up a conversation is easy.

Merry Xmas

Darryn

Wanted
Good stories for newsletter.
Any interesting articles.
Any good photo's of your hunting trips.
Send to editor – nzdarotorua@gmail.com
Or phone 021 066 7868

If you currently receive a postal copy of this newsletter and would like to receive an electronic (pdf) version instead, please drop me a line with your email address.

Electronic copies are delivered faster, are cheaper to produce and are better for the environment.

NZDA ROTORUA WEBSITE IS ONLINE:
CHECK OUT WWW.NZDAROTORUA.ORG.NZ

For sale

- **Ammo – 400 rounds of 222, 55gn SP and HP mix.**
- **Remington 700 BDL 308 with 3-9 Burris Scope** **\$1,500**
- **Sarasqueta 12g Double Trigger $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ Chokes** **\$ 300**

For further information, phone Cliff on 362 8883.

Rotorua Range Report for November 2010

November was a busy month, particularly for our more competitive shooters.

Saturday 6th; Taupo Prize Shoot. Rotorua was well represented here with eight shooters taking part all of whom were in the top 30 out of a total of 63 entries, placings for Rotorua shooters: 1st Brenda Perry 188.08; 5th Rod Hill 171.02; 10th Malcolm Perry 160.00; 14th, 12th A grade Hilary Heard 156.01; 15th, 2nd B grade Malcolm Gillice 154.02; 20th, 4th B grade Carol Gillice 147.01; 24th, 7th B grade Garth Piper 143.02; 27th, 2nd D grade Grant Piper 139.00.

This year Taupo had an additional shoot, which they called "Big Balls Shoot" basically a hunter class shoot. Entrants had to enter this class separately and 20 of the competitors did. Two of our shooters who entered did very well, Garth Piper using a .270 was 3rd with a score of 140; Malcolm Gillice , .270, 4th score 133; the winning score for this match was 147.01, so our lads not far behind.

Sunday 7th 300M club shoot, three shooters including our Kevin Ward attended, Kevin was using his .223 and had two very credible scores, 96.01 & 98.01.

Wed 17th-Sun. 21st I was camped at Tokoroa for the P.R.S.C., (Pacific Regional Shooting Championships).

Brenda was our golden girl in the scoped rifle section, with the possibility of seven medals, took home 5 Gold 1 Bronze and 1 Silver, with our A team taking the R/F team gold also it meant that the Australians did not get any Gold medals in this section. Brenda had only qualified in the R/F B team but that did not stop her top scoring in every match, R/F teams 3 x 40 3P; R/F Individual 3 x 40 3P and C/F combined team and individual 3x20 3P. The Service Rifle Assn also shot in this competition , on our range and the organizer, David VonElling, phoned me on the following Wed. thanked me for the use of the range and said it all went very well and they did not let the Australians get all the gold medals either.

Weekend 27th, 28th was the North Island Champs at Tokoroa. As sometimes happens when a shoot follows a big event there were not many entries, so few in fact that everybody got a top ten trophy. Brenda was a bit worn out after the previous weekends effort and only managed a bronze medal. However the Rotorua team, Brenda, Rod & Malcolm won the teams trophy.

COMING EVENTS:

Sunday Dec. 12th last event for 2010, the Christmas family .22 shoot starting at 10am. This is strictly a fun shoot for all the family, rifles and ammo for those who do not have. This will be followed by the Christmas B.B.Q. starting about midday.

At this weeks committee meeting it was decided not to produce a full 12 months calendar as things frequently change.

There will be no D.A. shoot in Jan but the 300m people may well have a shoot some time in preparation for Trentham.

Sunday February 6th (Waitangi Day) 300M club shoot?

Sunday 13th February Service rifle training shoot.

Sunday February 20th Deer silhouette shoot, 300, 200, 100 & 50M, excellent practice for the Roar. You will need 8 rounds of ammo per run through, we often do 3 runs, but that's your choice.

Sunday 6th March 300M club shoot.

Sunday 20th March R/F metallic silhouette shoot.

I have yet to sort it out, but the Auckland Service Rifle club are interested in using our range during 2011 particularly in the early part of the year in preparation for a trip to South Africa.

Time to reload,

Malcolm.

ROTORUA DEER STALKERS RANGE CALENDAR

N.Z.D.A. and all range matters contact: malcolmperry@clear.net.nz (348 4473)

Smallbore shoots, contact: Jon Abbott on 345 7112

300m shoots, contact: Patricia Law/Don Robertson 362 7725

This program is only provisional as some dates may be altered/reviced.

SHOP HOURS
10am to 6pm
Monday - Friday
Saturday 10am-1pm

MAIL/EMAIL/PHONE ENQUIRIES WELCOME
top_gun@clear.net.nz

SERIOUS SHOOTERS ROTORUA

The Bay of Plenty's Only Real Gun Shop

DAVE MINGINS
Owner

PHONE/FAX
(07) 349 2506

36A Amohia Street, Rotorua (Around from K.F.C.)

We offer a 5% discount to NZDA Members.
All products excluding Specials & New Firearms.
(Please present your current membership card)

Buy Online

www.seriousshooters-rotorua.co.nz

SHOP LOCATION
Opposite New Hammer Hardware

Volunteers/NZDA Rotorua Projects Updates

Whirinaki Deer pen removal

First three pens have been done. Need volunteers for the second flyin. If you can help, please call Murray on 345 5160. Next proposed fly in will be soon. There will be short notice as dates are determined by the pilot, weather and helicopter availability.

If you want any further information, or are able to help, please contact Darryn or another committee member.

Whirinaki Hut restoration

NZDA just completed upgrading the Mangakahika Hut. If you would like to be involved in the Whirinaki Hut restoration, please contact Murray or any other committee member. We will be doing one or two huts every year. Although we are working, there is ample time to get in some hunting as well.

Copy of recent emails to NZDA re Mangakahika Hut upgrade.

----- Original Message -----

From: Earl Rewi

To: Carol Robson

Cc: Darryn Cosgrave ; David Finn

Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 1:37 PM

Subject: RE: NZDA

Hi Murray,

A great effort from you and the team for the Mangakahika project - from the images supplied there now appears to be a better use of hut space accommodation. From a management perspective this hut should now meet the Service Standards which ticks all the boxes for this programme of work - I hope the team also managed to get into the scrub and supplement the larder while based at the hut.

Thanks

Earl Rewi Programme Manager Visitor & Historic Assets Te Urewera/Whirinaki Area Office

From: David Finn

Sent: Monday, 29 November 2010 11:13 a.m.

To: Carol Robson

Cc: Earl Rewi; Hayden Spencer

Subject: RE: NZDA

Hi Murray,

Was just thinking about sending you an email to thank your guys for the excellent work that was done at Mangakahika hut.

I must admit that it was a refreshing group of people to work with. I am pleased with the finished result. As would anybody be, who can remember trying to squeeze into the top and middle bunks. Can you please pass on our appreciation to those involved and other club members. Thanks.

I will have to try and work out what is the best option for the next hut job. I know that I mentioned Central Waiau hut but I think that there is quite a bit that needs to be done to that hut and not sure whether this year's budget will cover it. Depends on when you want to go in. An alternative would be to tidy up Te Waiotukapiti hut (the next hut down the Waiau valley). An historic slab hut that needs exterior paint, meatsafe and toilet paint and then for me to bid for extra funds to do Central Waiau hut which should be available after June 2011.

Would you be looking at trying to schedule the next hut job during/before the roar? What time suits your team?

Just trying to work out what will work best for all involved.

Cheers

David Finn

Mangakahika hut upgrade by Murray Robson

This is the hut I've always wanted to go to and never got around to it. My hunting mate John Konlechner built the original hut in about 1975. The year before he and Cliff Drower built the Bullring hut which has been removed. Until then there were no huts or bench track between Central Te Hoe and Rogers just the odd bottle top nailed to trees by the deer cullers who travelled through the area and horse tracks made by meat hunters who were now shooting the area.

We were lucky enough to be the first ones to stay in the Bullring hut during the 1974 roar. Allen Farmer from the Forest Service DPF had us dropped in by chopper and as it was flying away the stags started roaring. Cliff managed to film two stags fighting only several metres away from him. I had borrowed a movie camera off a friend but not being experienced in its use I didn't realise it was too dark under the canopy of trees to film.

There were stags roaring everywhere and as there had been very little hunting pressure they would come right up to you. We had an amazing time just roaring them in. We stayed for a few days then walked out to where the Mangakahika hut is and found a stag lying in the creek. He had been pushed off a bluff then attacked by a stag. It looked like he had been shot with a machine gun there were holes all over him. I gave a roar and a stag came charging down towards us. John and I both fired at the same time with the stag collapsing within metres from us. After that we carried on down to Rogers where we stayed. The hut was infested with rats and during the night one ran over Johns face and into his sleeping bag. He couldn't get out of that bag fast enough. None of us slept much that night so we had an early start to head towards Skips then on to the newly made Okahu road.

What a mess the bulldozers had made, and the powers to be were worrying about deer damage.

Now 37 years later.

We met at the DOC headquarters at 8.30 on Friday morning. Dave was loading up the truck and trailer with the gear for the repairs and work required on the hut. The team was Stewart Bates, Mark Paulger, Neil Fawcett, Scott and Cam Russell and myself.

Dave gave us a list of the jobs, new water tank, dig a soak hole for the overflow of tank, fit new spouting connections, fit new outer flue for fire, repairs to toilet door, replace roof ridge flashing and painting of inside roof and walls of the hut.

Silver flew us in from Lakelands. Stewart, Scott, Cam and I, as soon as we arrived Stewart grabbed his gear and headed up the track. He had been gone about ten minutes when Scott and I could hear a hind barking. When he came back he said there were three of them but he couldn't get a good shot so they just kept on moving.

Soon Silver was back with a load of gear in the net and then another fifteen minutes with Mark and Neil.

The guys had been in there a month earlier pulling down the deer pens and the hut was a mess with rats living in it and stank of rat crap. The bunks were three high giving the people in the middle and top bunks no room to sit up so we decided to cut the top three bunks off and move two onto the end wall making it a eight bunk hut. The last bunk was put outside and can be used as a table or snorers bunk by putting the extra mattress on it. Neil used it and it worked just fine.

Hayden from DOC had been in during the week and cleaned up the rat mess and filled the bait stations with poison so hopefully no more rats for a while.

We were working away when Roger Bawden from our branch and Iain Mckay, my son inlaw turned up from Rogers hut. They had decided to hunt their way back just before dark so they gave us a hand till it was time for them to go back. We found out later that they shot a deer about an hour away from Rogers hut just before dark. At about six o clock we all headed out for an evening hunt. I was the last to leave after getting some water for the kettle. Mark had just gone a couple of minutes earlier and I had got about sixty metres down the track from the hut when a hind jumped up and crashed away from the edge of the clearing before I had even put any bullets in my rifle. The local deer had been feeding on the hut clearing and she was coming out for her evening feed, we had been using hammers and cutting timber all afternoon making lots of noise and had only been quiet for about fifteen minutes.

The next morning we all headed out early. The bush was very noisy and the wind kept changing directions making it very hard hunting. No more deer were seen. I was disappointed at how much damage had been done to the area with the large snow falls and strong winds in recent years. It was hard to find any clear way though without clambering over fallen trees and branches making lots off noise and scaring anything before you could get near enough to see them.

We arrived back about lunch time and got stuck in to the hut work. Dave from DOC arrived with some more gear so we could finish the last jobs. Stewart finally got back from his morning hunt just before dark (13 hours). A huge day but with no luck like the rest off us.

Sunday morning everyone went for another hunt but again no deer. We ate the last of bacon, sausages and steak and packed up for the fly home.

The hut is now a good hut to stay in and DOC is very pleased with the work our branch is doing so more huts will be coming up in the near future. If you are interested in this work ring Darryn and get your name on the list.

Murray Robson

Outdoorsman Headquarters

NEW ZEALAND'S GREATEST OUTDOOR OUTFITTERS

6 Tarawera Road, Rotorua
07 345 9333

Ridgeline Summer Pack

Polo Shirt
T shirt
Shots
Cap



All sizes available

Only \$89-90!

Merry Xmas and a prosperous New Year to all



ROTORUA



Savage Arms

The Definition of Accuracy

SUPPLIED
WITH RINGS
AND 3-9X40
SCOPE!

Rated the Ultimate Value Deer Rifle Combo
— so we purchased the entire first shipment

Synthetic Stock — Black or Camo options, Silky Bolt, Box Mag, Dual Pillar Bedding,
22" Free Float Barrel,
Matt Metal Finish,
Two Position Safety.



BLACK \$799
CAMO \$850

(.223, .243, .270,
.7m08, .308)



Rotorua Hunting and Fishing, Cnr Lake Road & Fairy Springs Road, ROTORUA,
Ph 07 349 6303.



ROTORUA – TAURANGA – HASTINGS
www.hamillsnz.co.nz

HOWA RANCHLAND RIFLE

COMPACT, HOUGE STOCKED IN GREEN,
FITTED WITH A NIKKO STIRLING GAMEKING CAMO, 3.5-10X44 SCOPE.
AVAILABLE IN ALL POPULAR CALIBRES. .243, 7mm.08, .308 ETC.

\$1,099.00



www.hamillsnz.co.nz

10% discount to all NZDA members – bring your membership card (discount excludes electronics, ammunition, firearms or already discounted items)

CANNABIS CROPPING SEASON

Well its that time of year some of our most avid gardeners are at it again, preparing their plots for the planting of cannabis seedlings.

Unfortunately for those of you who are utilising the forests legally for the purpose of hunting, hiking and the likes, you are the ones at RISK of stumbling over the criminal activity taking place.

If you should come across something that looks 'dodgy' ie, Cannabis plants, camps, vehicles and people who look suspicious to you, exercise extreme care and do not confront those people or venture into the area.

INSTEAD: note in your head or on your GPS where the location of the activity is. Take in any information you can see, including vehicle registration numbers. If its safe consider taking a photograph – however **do not compromise your own safety.**

When you return from your expedition you can contact me on a confidential basis to report your findings.

Happy hunting.

Karin Staunton
Detective Organised Crime, Rotorua
027 683 9047



Typical example of cannabis seedlings
That are ready for planting out in the bush

In the news

ANGLERS REFUSED ACCESS TO RIVER OVER SUMMER – BY ISAAC DAVISON – THE NZ HERALD (24 NOVEMBER 2010)

The blocking of access to a world-renowned trout-fishing river has created a worrying precedent, say anglers and tourism operators.

Forestry management company Timberlands has effectively closed access to the Rangitaiki River, southeast of Rotorua, saying the fire risk was too great in the surrounding Kaingaroa forest.

The company has adopted a policy that vehicle access was allowed only during weekends and when the fire risk was low.

With the fire risk raised to moderate, visitors would be shut out of the remote parts of the forest for at least three months.

Fish & Game regional manager Rob Pitkethley said the new policy was an over-reaction.

"In the last three years, the fire risk has remained at moderate or above for between 120 to 140 days. So under the current policy it's a summer closure. It would take 30ml of rain for the forest to re-open."

"Only two years ago this land was owned by the Crown. It is a concerning precedent, with regard to having to cross private land to get to public land."

Commercial anglers said their footprint was minimal. Unlike hunters, they used the forest only to access the river, which was public property.

Some have lost their livelihood since the forest was closed.

Fly fishing guide Peter Hill has been forced to seek new work after 10 years of hosting visitors from New Zealand, Japan, and the United States.

He said last month that anglers with permits were the least likely to hurt the forest. "No dogs, no firearms. Nobody minded getting permits, but suddenly they pulled the pin."

Walking access was still allowed in the area, but spots where tourists flocked to catch 10kg trout were deep in the forest and only reachable by road.

Motel operators were also suffering, as they depended on anglers. Since the forest was closed to the public on October 28, summer tours had cancelled their visits and headed to South Island rivers.

The forestry land was passed from Crown ownership to iwi under a Treaty settlement two years ago.

The management company has increasingly restricted access, against the wishes of local iwi, some of whom have been issued trespass notices while collecting firewood and kai.

United Future leader Peter Dunne called a meeting for concerned parties in Rotorua on Monday night.

Mr Dunne said Timberlands' stance was contrary to a proud New Zealand tradition of free access for hunting and fishing in forests and rivers. He said it should be possible to maintain fire management while allowing public access.

Timberlands forest risk manager Colin Maunder said the company was now harvesting three times as much from the Kaingaroa, and the risks to public and workplace safety were greater.

The company was also concerned about a number of incidents in the forest, including arson and vandalism, in the past year.

ENDANGERED SPECIES BATTLE IMAGE PROBLEM – BY KIRAN CHUG – THE DOMINION POST (8 DECEMBER 2010)

Image could be partly to blame for a lack of funding and support for some of New Zealand's most threatened species.

This month sees the end of the United Nations' International Year of Biodiversity. Yet global species extinction is accelerating, and experts say many species in this country will be lost.

Conservation Department senior technical officer Avi Holzapfel said some species were urgently in need of management, but protection was up to businesses and community groups as well as DOC. Some species struggled to get attention, attract funding or dedicated conservation programmes because they were "hard to get excited about".

"It's easy for cute, cuddly or quirky animals to get attention."

While birds such as kiwi easily appealed to the emotions, Dr Holzapfel used the example of the *Dactylanthus taylorii* flower, endangered and threatened by possums, stoats and mice.

It was New Zealand's only fully native parasitic flowering plant, and pollinated by the equally endangered short-tailed bat. However, as the plant spent its life underground till flowering, it was difficult to see, and therefore hard to gain support for. With the flower now at 5 per cent of its original distribution, DOC had managed to turn its decline around by actively managing it by putting cages around plants.

About \$1 million a year is spent on programmes to save the kiwi, compared with about \$5000 to \$10,000 on the plant. A similar amount is spent on the Mahoenui giant weta, which exists only on one predator-free offshore island and a small Waikato DOC-managed reserve.

Each year DOC spends about \$2000 to \$3000 protecting invertebrates, and Dr Holzapfel used the examples of the leaf-veined slug and New Zealand's giant carnivorous snails as an example of a species "probably not on people's minds a lot".

"You have to tell a story. You have to appeal to something else. Then often you get engagement."

Landcare research ecologist Bill Lee said there had been, for example, a 50 per cent increase in the past five years in the number of threatened plant species.

There were now 180 severely in danger, mostly in areas where human activity was greatest. He praised New Zealand's efforts in "crisis management", at saving species from near extinction on offshore islands or in relatively small areas.

However, the "jury was still out" on whether conservation efforts were leading to the establishment of self-sustaining populations in larger mainland areas.

The Resource Management Act was an inadequate instrument for achieving protection for New Zealand's native species, Dr Lee said. Although New Zealand had a 20-year biodiversity strategy – of which this year is the midway point – the failure for that to be morphed into a national policy statement meant it could not be used in conjunction with the RMA to identify biodiversity priorities.

Auckland University research associate John Craig said most of New Zealand's land was not covered by any active biodiversity management and most species lacked targeted recovery work.

RAFTER CLINGS TO CLIFF FOR NIGHT BY ALISTAIR GRAY – THE DAILY POST (4 DECEMBER 2010)

One unlucky soul spent a sleepless night wedged between a rock wall and a tree after making a detour coming back from a bush walk.

Taupo's Youthtown rescue helicopter was called at 7.30am yesterday to the stranded man, who spent the night stuck on a cliff.

Senior Constable Barry Sheppard of the Taupo Police said the 52-year-old man from Auckland's North Shore was one of a group of four who had flown into the upper reaches of the Mohaka River to begin a four-day rafting trip.

"They flew in yesterday and set up camp and he went over the ridge for a bit of a walk.

"He went through the bush and tried to take a shortcut back down the cliff. He realised he couldn't go down, so he went up and it was loose so he spent the night holding on to a tree."

The man's friends managed to get a sleeping bag to him via a length of rope so he had, at least, a degree of comfort over night said Mr Sheppard.

"He spent the night perched on a rock face holding on to a tree - I doubt he would have slept much."

After being rescued and speaking with police the man was said to have been "very embarrassed".

Youthtown helicopter pilot and base manager Nat Every said the rescue crew arrived at the cliff about 8.30am and the man's rafting tour group showed them where he was.

The man's companions spent the night watching his predicament from the ground and seemed to enjoy seeing him winched off the rock, Mr Every said.

"He seemed reasonably pleased to be on the ground."

The group continued their rafting tour yesterday.

STARVATION, EXPOSURE CLAIMED LIFE BY DAN HUTCHINSON - THE SOUTHLAND TIMES (10 DECEMBER 2010)

It remains a mystery how Paul Anthony Alogi made it deep into New Zealand's most unforgiving wilderness before finally dying of cold and starvation.

Mr Alogi, 40, was described by his sister Eilleen Alogi as a man "who just did things when he wanted to do them".

He was shy, preferred his own company, and a wanderer who somehow ended up deep in Fiordland National Park.

He had no tent, just a sleeping bag, a pack and a raincoat for protection. In his possession was also a photo album with pictures of family.

At a coroners court hearing in Te Anau yesterday, barge skipper Bill Black said he had spoken to Mr Alogi at Glade Wharf near Milford but had refused to give Mr Alogi a boat ride to the Wolsley River Mouth because he was ill prepared and short on supplies.

He said Mr Alogi had already done quite a hard walk just to get to Glade Wharf and was asking where he could get food.

"To have done that and want to carry on, he must have been very fit or something," Mr Black said.

The last person to see Mr Alogi alive was Real Journeys launch master Colin Heath, who warned him about the environment he wanted to go into and the risks of being poorly equipped.

He said Mr Alogi was not aware of the heavy rain warning and had a bit of rope tying up one shoe.

"People normally carry a camera with them, not a photo album," Mr Heath said. He did not take him to the Wolsley area.

His decomposing body was found two months later by hunters Alan Nicholson and Selwyn Svenson in McDonalds Creek in Bligh Sound, a torturous walk of almost 30km over steep, mountainous and thick rain forest.

Police estimate it would have taken about five days for a very fit, experienced and well-prepared person to cover that terrain.

The hunters were part of a group of four that had split into pairs and were two days into a two-week hunt for wapiti after being dropped into the remote area by helicopter.

Mr Alogi had no tent and was found in his sleeping bag with a raincoat draped over it. There were mussel shells nearby, which meant he must have been further out in Bligh Sound at some stage.

Mr Svenson said the weather was very poor at the time and in the preceding weeks. There was evidence of storm damage in the area where they found Mr Alogi.

The hunters were unable to raise the alarm until April 5 but noted a precise location for searchers to return and recover the body before continuing.

Mr Cairns said there was no indication of foul play, no sign of any injuries and the cause of death was unknown. Wine bottles were found in his possession.

Mr Alogi was thought to have arrived in Queenstown on January 8 before travelling further south under an assumed name.

Coroner David Crerar said no-one was at fault in Mr Alogi's death.

"He has become stranded without adequate food or shelter and has succumbed to starvation and exposure."

PIG DOGS HELP SEARCHERS FIND OWNER'S BODY - THE NELSON MAIL (18 NOVEMBER 2010)

Two loyal pig hunting dogs stayed with their owner when he died overnight and eventually led search and rescue teams to him.

About 8.30pm yesterday, 72-year-old Jim Rae, from Wakefield, was reported overdue from a hunt in the Wangapeka Valley. He had been expected home along with his two dogs earlier in the afternoon.

Two ground teams comprising search and rescue (SAR) volunteers and Mr Rae's hunting companions were sent from Tapawera, with an aerial search conducted by the Nelson-Marlborough Summit Rescue Helicopter.

Nelson Bays Search and Rescue co-ordinator Sergeant Mike Fitzsimons said using the tracking collar signals from Mr Rae's pig dogs, the searchers found the dogs in steep bush above the Rolling River in the Wangapeka area.

Mr Rae was found nearby at 2.30am. He had apparently died of natural causes.

Summit Rescue Helicopter pilot Tim Clifford-Smith said fog meant the helicopter had to return later this morning to retrieve his body. He did not seem to have any injuries. The body was winched from the hillside and brought back to Nelson.

SAR assistant co-ordinator Sherp Tucker said night vision goggles had been invaluable in finding Mr Rae, who had died "doing what he loves".

The matter has been referred to the coroner.

EXERCISES TEST RESCUE OPERATIONS BY ANITA MORAN - THE DAILY POST (10 DECEMBER 2010)

An overdue mountainbiker and a pair of overdue trampers were being searched for as part of an annual Search and Rescue exercise.

Search and Rescue teams made up of police, volunteers and members of the Rotorua Mountain Bike Club took part in the annual exercise in Te Urewera National Park over the weekend.

Organiser Detective Sergeant John Wilson said the annual exercise involved simulated searches with teams taking part in tactical tests. This year's exercise involved about 25 people.

"It was a reasonable turnout," Mr Wilson said.

"It was good that we had a few new people come along to see what it is like being part of Search and Rescue."

Two scenarios were in place over the course of the weekend.

"The first was an overdue mountainbiker and the mountainbike team had to find a crashed bike and the rider in the forest."

He said the second scenario involved two overdue trampers.

"It is good that these were just exercises and not the real thing because we did encounter a few problems - but things could have been worse," Mr Wilson said.

The biggest issue the teams came across was being able to stay in touch with each other.

Mr Wilson said such exercises were good at testing search and rescue systems.

God Save NZ!

A woman from Auckland, who was a tree hugger, Greens supporter, and an anti-hunter, purchased a piece of bush land near Coromandel. There was a large Kauri tree on one of the highest points on the block. She wanted a good view of the natural splendor of her land so she started to climb the big tree. As she neared the top she encountered a mynah bird that attacked her. In her haste to escape, the woman slid down the tree to the ground and got many splinters in her crotch.

In considerable pain, she hurried to Thames Hospital to see a doctor. She told him she was an environmentalist, a Greenie, and an anti-hunter and how she came to get all the splinters. The doctor listened to her story with great patience and then told her to go wait in the examining room and he would see if he could help her.

She sat and waited three hours before the doctor reappeared. The angry woman demanded, "What took you so long?"

He smiled and then told her, "Well, I had to get permits from the Department of Conservation, Resource Management Act, County Council, Regional Authority and Iwi before I could remove old-growth timber from a recreational area. I'm sorry, but they turned me down."

God save NZ!

Why you must always keep your rifle handy and maintain awareness while hunting!!



Dear Santa: Bring me what I want for Christmas or Prancer and Dancer are next.

Club Contacts

Postal address: PO Box 857, Rotorua
Email: nzdarotorua@gmail.com web: www.nzdarotorua.org.nz

Patron	Des Jenkins	
Honorary Solicitor	Barry Rodgers	
Life Members	Des Jenkins	
	Rod Houghton	Ph 332 2577
	Owen Rumble	
	Gary Winslade	
Honorary Member	Ross Burton	
Investment Trustees	Keith Billington	
	Rod Houghton	
	Des Jenkins	

Branch Executive

President	Darryn Cosgrave	Ph 348 4496
Vice President and Hunts Convenor	Murray Robson	Ph 345 5160
Treasurer	Rod Houghton	Ph 332 2577
Secretary	Elvis Bowring	Ph 350 3230

Committee Members and officers

Range	Malcolm Perry	Ph 348 4473
Search and Rescue	Cliff Graham	Ph 362 8883
Socials	Scott Russell	Ph 343 9383
Tines Editor	Elvis/Scott	Ph 350 3230/343 9383
Webmaster	Ralph Price	Ph 357 2786
	Ron Marsden	Ph 362 8542
	Colin Petersen	Ph 343 9481
	Dennis Price	

Range Keys

Any person who wishes to have a range gate key for the private use of our range must be a CURRENT FINANCIAL MEMBER of the Branch and must obtain a key from Hamills, Outdoorsman HQ or Serious Shooters at a cost of \$20.00 per year. Your membership card must be produced at the time of key purchase. Keys may not be lent or passed on to other persons, whether they are members or not. Non-Members can only enter the Range if accompanied by a current Financial Member. Any use of the range by non-members requires prior approval of the committee.

Membership Costs

Senior = \$90 (full benefits at local and national branch level)

Associate = \$60 (Unable to vote or enter national competitions. Does not receive H&W)

Junior = \$25 (Must be less than 18 years of age as at March 1st 2010. Full benefits apart from voting rights.)

Student = \$40 (Must be attending a tertiary institute or undergoing an apprenticeship. Proof must be provided.)

Superannuant = \$50 (Over 65 as at March 1st 2010. Full benefits)

Family = \$5 (Children or grandchildren)

Sender: Rotorua Branch NZDA
PO Box 857
ROTORUA

